

REMARKS

I. Introduction

This Supplemental Amendment is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action of March 28, 2007 pursuant to a telephone conference between the undersigned and Examiner Wong on December 2, 2008.

Claims 1-62, 65-69, and 71-85 are pending in this application. Claims 19-62, 65-69, and 71-85 have been underlined in their entirety pursuant to 37 CFR 1.173. Claim 21 has been amended to add a period "." at the end of line 3 of the claim. Claim 58 has been amended to delete the word "pass" and replace it with the word "past" in line 8 of the claim, to delete the word "and" in line 18 of the claim, and to add "sending the corresponding electrical communication signals to a translation logic device for performing protocol translation; and" to lines 19-20 of the claim. Claim 62 has been amended to add a period "." at the end of line 3 of the claim. Claim 69 has been amended to delete the word "and" in line 17 of the claim and to add "operating at least some of the nodes in full duplex such that each node can simultaneously transmit optical signals and receive optical signals from another node; and" at lines 18-19 of the claim. The amendment to the specification has been underlined pursuant to 37 CFR 1.173(d).

A supplemental reissue oath/declaration signed by Steve W. Braun, Henri Hodara, John J. Soderberg, and G. Allan Whittaker was previously submitted on September 21, 2007.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action of March 28, 2007. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, or that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an amendment, please call 404 815 6061.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. Turton', is written over a horizontal line.

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Date: December 2, 2008
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